

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 A-01

OPR-02 PA-02 PM-05 SS-15 NSC-05 DODE-00 MCT-01

/059 W

-----097961 190413Z /65

R 181716Z FEB 78

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2028

USIA WASH DC

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

UNCLAS IZMIR 069

E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, TU

SUBJECT: BOMB DISCOVERED AT IZMIR BNC.

FRANKFURT FOR RSS, ISTANBUL FOR RSO.

1. TUSKISH POLICE DEACTIVATED A TIME BOMB DISCOVERED FRIDAY
EVENING AT THE TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING IN IZMIR.
DEVICE CONSISTED OF AEROSOL CAN PACKED WITH EXPLOSIVE COMPOUND.
WATCH AND BATTERY FILLED INSIDE OF PLASTIC COVER. DISCOVERY ON
TOP OF WALL-MOUNTED WATER TANK FOR TURKISH TOILET WAS AT 4:40PM.
POLICE INDICATED DEVICE WAS SET FOR AROUND 7 PM- THAT IS DURING

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FIRST HOUR OF EVENING ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES.

THE BATHROOM, LOCATED NEXT TO GROUND FLOOR STUDENT
CANTEEN AREA, HAS ONLY ONE TOILET AND TWO WASH BASINS. ALL
CLASSROOMS ARE ON UPPER FLOORS AND HAVE LARGER WASHROOM
FACILITIES NEAR AT HAND.

2. USIS DRIVER, WHO FOUND THE BOMB, IS GENERALLY DETAILED
TO ASSIST SURVEILLANCE OF USIS LIBRARY ONLY DURING LAST HOUR
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BEFORE CLOSING AT 6:30 PM. HE WAS PLACED ON DUTY EARLY FRIDAY
BECAUSE NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 17-18 IS ANNIVERSARY OF BOMB EXPLOSION
IN LIBRARY LAST YEAR. HE MADE DISCOVERY DURING ROUTINE SWEEP
OF GROUND FLOOR ALTHOUGH THAT BATHROOM IS NOT THE ONE CLOSEST TO
LIBRARY.

3. CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGEST THAT THIS WAS TO BE ANOTHER
EVENT AT THE TAA-USIS COMPLEX NEAR THE DATE ON WHICH A

TERRORIST LEADER WAS KILLED IN A POLICE SHOOTOUT FEBRUARY 19, 1972. WITH CLOSE TO 800 PEOPLE IN THE BUILDING A MAJOR BATHROOM, MIGHT ALSO HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED BY ONE OR TWO PERSONS GIVING RISE TO SERIOUS INJURY. OTHERWISE DAMAGE WOULD HAVE BEEN LARGLY CONTAINED BY THE BRICK STURCTURE.

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4. REMAINDER OF FRIDAY NIGHT WAS CALM IN IZMIR IN CONTRAST TO ONE YEAR AGO WHEN FOUR BOMBS WERE SET IN WIDELY SCATTERED PARTS OF TOWN. HOWEVER, A SHORT FUSED BOMB WAS THROWN OVER THE FENCE BEHIND THE HEADQUARTERS FOR IZMIR'S MOBILE POLICE UNITS ABOUT MIDNIGHT THURSDAY. IT RESULTED IN BROKEN WINDOWS BUT NO INJURIES. THE BOMB INCIDENTS RECEIVED FRONT PAGE TREATMENT IN SATURDAY MORNING EDITION OF YENI ASIR, LARGEST CIRCULATING PAPER IN THIS REGION(50,000 PLUS). COLOR PHOTO SHOWED POLICE AGENT WITH COMPONENTS OF TAA BOMB.

5. LOCAL U.S. MILITARY, ALL USIS TURKEY LIBRARIES, AND OTHER DIPLOMATIC POSTS WERE ALERTED TO DISCOVERY OF TAA BOMB BY PHONE. SECURITY PRECAUTINS WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT THROUGH HOLIDAY WEEDEND AT OPERATING FACILITIES.

MOFFETT

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